

# the milliwatt



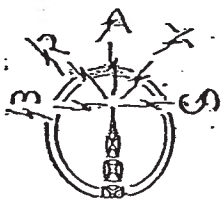
The award-winning monthly publication of  
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society  
P.O. Box 5915                      Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

January, 2016

## North Korea on the air for First Time In More Than a Decade!

In an unexpected turn of events, Polish DXer Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, who visited North Korea -- officially the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) -- this month in advance of a planned Amateur Radio operation early next year, showed up on the air from the most-wanted DXCC entity around 0000 on December 20. During a "demonstration" for North Korean officials, P5/3Z9DX made nearly 800 DXers -- most of them in Asia -- very happy over the couple of days he was on the air. Grzyb operated mostly on 15 meters with some excursions on 20 and 10 meters, SSB only. The P5/3Z9DX preview was the first from North Korea since the 2001-2002 operation by Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN.

The surprise appearance of P5/3Z9DZ on the air coincided with some of the worst HF conditions in days, if not weeks, no thanks to a geomagnetic storm. Grzyb's visit to Pyongyang this month had been scheduled to iron out the details of his 2016 operation. The radio equipment he took to North Korea remained behind in government hands, as agreed beforehand. A P5/3Z9DX operation from North Korea now is poised to take place in February.



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The award-winning monthly  
publication of The BRATS.  
Items herein may be reprinted  
with appropriate credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

**The BRATS  
Officers,  
Board of  
Directors  
And Membership  
Wish all of you  
A Happy, Healthy  
New Year!!!!**

## THANKS!

**Thanks to Russ, N3YI  
and Scott, KB3Jqq, for  
items submitted for  
this issue... We really  
appreciate it. – W3GXX**

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**The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282**

A non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3)  
of the internal Revenue Code and a non-profit  
corporation in the State of Maryland

Member: ARRL, Foundation for Amateur Radio

Home Page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>

Email: [brats@bratsatv.org](mailto:brats@bratsatv.org)

Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7 PM at the  
Greene Turtle, Owings Mills, MD or  
The Pikesville Library; 1301 Reisterstown Rd.

President: Oryx Gazaella, K0RYX

Vice Pres.: Kevin Sherwood, KB3PLX

Secretary: Ted Bauer, WA3AER

Treasurer: Jim Shērwood, KB3SKN

Chairman of the Board:

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

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## BRATS REPEATERS

Linked, WB3DZO

147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-

Stand alone:

443.350+, 224.8-

Packet Nodes:

W3GXT=5 145.05

W3GXT-10 224.52

ATV repeaters W3WCQ

inputs: 426.25, 1253.25

Outputs: 439.25, 911.25

## BRATS WEEKLY NETS

Monday 9 PM Traffic and Info

Tues. 11:45 Informal ATV

Wednes. 9 PM CATS ATV

Thurs 9 PM BRATS ATV

Sat. 1 PM Weekly News Bulle

Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net

AS Needed: Skywarn

## BRATS Board of Directors

Through December, 2016:

W3MSR, K9FXY

Through December, 2017:

K2GZL, N3GXH

## BRATS MEETINGS

Second Monday of each month

7:00 PM, site to be determined

**Listen to the weekly News**

**Bulletin on 147.03/R**

**Saturday at 1 PM**

**Join us for the weekly**

**Traffic and info Net on**

**Mondays at 9PM on 147.03/R**

# BRATS

## Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society MINUTES of the 7 December 2015 Monthly Meeting

KevinS, KB3PLX, chaired the annual Holiday meeting at Greene Turtle, Owings Mills.

### /REPORTS

- Minutes: Minutes from the November meeting submitted
- Repeater/Equipment:
  - ATV** – KenMcQ, K3UQQ, located the prior preamp, tested, and installed on site. Reportedly working OK. Need replacement 25A pwr supply; TedB, WA3AER, will check to see if he has a spare to donate.
  - 2M Amp** – waiting for TE Systems to build, ship the unit we ordered.
  - WIRES-X** – unit received from Yaesu, awaiting installation.
  - DATV** – plan investigation into investment needed to start up.
  - Site Visits** – PLEASE inform club officers before any site visits for coordination and approval with site staff. This will keep us in the good graces of our site hosts.

### /OLD BUSINESS

- KA3IDB (SK): We are sad to report that long time member, and frequent volunteer, Bill Self passed on Nov. 14, 2015.
- NPOTA: MarkR, W3MSR, sent application and fee to NPS/Ft. McHenry. We need to establish dates for operation during Spring 2016. K3B special event call will be requested.

### /NEW BUSINESS

- 2016 Board Meeting: Meeting will be held at the January meeting. Location and date T.B.D. Please stay tuned.
- 2016 Officers: Nominations from November accepted; no new ones received. Slate elected without discussion.
- Meeting Venue: NeilG, W3ZQI, volunteered to approach Towson American Legion as our meeting site, and potential location for a station. This is in keeping with Fr. Skip's suggestion prior to his passing.
- Work Party List: We would like to create a list of those members willing to lend a hand for work parties. If interested, please send your name and email address to TedB, thbauer [at] gmail [dot] com.

Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to all BRATS members and their families.

Ted, WA3AER,  
Secretary

## **POW! TO THE MOON, ALICE!**

Anyone who appreciates what older radio equipment can still do, will appreciate the importance of a commemorative moonbounce event taking place this month in New Jersey. Seventy years ago, a team from the U.S. Army, operating at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey's "Project Diana" site, successfully copied radio signals that had been bounced from the moon using an Army tracking dish.

That site is now part of the InfoAge Science History Museum where, on January 10, the EME, or "earth-moon-earth" bounce, will be recreated, marking the date when the historic transmission both left its mark and its signal, in 1946.

In fact, the radio amateurs intend to use that same dish, which has long since been demilitarized and refurbished. The TLM-18 received those first historic signals during its time of active service on that site as a ground station for the TIROS 1 and 2 weather satellites and for Project Vanguard.

The commemorative transmission will occur on 23 centimeters from the station of the Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club, N2MO, sent by members of that club as well as hams from Princeton University and the science museum. The dish's primary role, as used by Daniel Marlow, K2QM, is to help observe radio pulsars as well as radiation from the Milky Way.

Marlow teaches physics at Princeton University and serves on the board of InfoAge.

The TLM-18 is being made available for the amateurs' moonbounce on a secondary basis.

Nevertheless, promising this group the moon - and then delivering - is going to be just as historic an event as it had been back in 1946. (ARRL, INFOAGE MUSEUM) (AR Newslines)

## **HONORS AT HAMVENTION**

If you're planning to attend Dayton Hamvention in May this year, don't just be an attendee - be a part of the awards ceremony by nominating candidates now. Organizers are looking to present awards for Amateur of the Year, Special Achievement, Technical Excellence and Club of the Year. You have until Feb. 1 to submit the names of deserving candidates, and all licensed amateurs are eligible. Forms and details about how candidates can qualify are available on the Dayton Hamvention website. Find the website at the bottom of this story on our Amateur Radio Newslines website. Or send questions to [awards@hamvention.org](mailto:awards@hamvention.org).

**Website is <http://hamvention.org/event-details/awards/>**

(HENRY RUMINSKI, Hamvention Media Chair) (arnewslines)

## **ARRL DX BULLETIN**

**ANTARCTICA, CE9.** 8T2BH is QRV by VU3BPZ until mid-December 2016 at the Bharati Research Station. He plans to be on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via I1HYW.

**SABLE ISLAND, CY0.** CY0/VA1AXC is QRV in his spare time until the end of January, 2016. Look for him on 20 meters using SSB during his evening hours, 2100-2300Z. (continued next page)

## ARRL DX Bulletin

**KENYA, 5Z.** Rick, M0LEP is QRV as 5Z4/M0LE until January 10. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**SENEGAL, 6W.** Francis, F6BLP will be QRV as 6W7SK from January 5 to 31. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, with a focus on the lowbands, using CW with some SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**MOROCCO, CN.** Jean, F5LYF is QRV as CN2JJ from Tiznit until March 2016. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**IRELAND, EI.** Special event station EI1916E is QRV during all of 2016 to commemorate the 1916 Easter Rising of Dublin. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, RTTY and PSK. This includes entries in

some of the upcoming RTTY contests. QSL direct to EI3GC.

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL.** Special event station HL16RI is QRV

Until June 27, 2016 during the 107th Convention of Rotary International in Seoul that is held from May 28 to June 1. QSL via bureau.

**BULGARIA, LZ.** Members of Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV as LZ1012SGM during 2016 to honor the memory of Bulgarian Saints. QSL via bureau.

**UKRAINE, UR.** Special event stations EM10UFF and EM10UCF

are QRV until June 30, 2016 to mark the 10 year anniversaries of the Ukrainian Flora and Fauna and Ukrainian Castles. QSL both calls via UR7UT.

**BELIZE, V3.** Bob, K7YB will be QRV as V31YB from Placencia and San Ignacio from January 3 to 12. Activity will be holiday

style on 40, 20, 17 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL direct to home call.

**VANUATU, YJ.** Daniel, VK4AFU plans to be QRV as YJ0AFU from Port Vila, IOTA OC-035, from January 2 to 10. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via NA5U.

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## SILENT KEY

Roland Slatkoff, W3RUN  
December 19, 2015

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January, 2016

## WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Jan 09- 10	NA QSO party, CW
Jan 10	NRAY Baltic Contest
0630-0830Z	SSB; 0900-1100Z CW
	DARC 10-meter contest
Jan 15	LZ Open contest
Jan 16-17	Hungarian contest
	NA QSO Party, SSB
Jan 23-24	BARTG RTY Sprint
	YLISB QS party CW/SSB
	UK/EI DX contest, CW
Jan 23	Montana QSO Party
Jan 29-31	CQ 160-meter Contest, CV
Jan 30-31	UBA DX Contest SSB

## HAMFESTS

**Saturday, January 30, Odenton, MD**  
MMARC Hamfest New Site  
Odenton Baptist Church  
8410 Piney Orchard Pkwy  
Odenton 21113  
THIS SITE THIS YEAR ONLY  
Returns to fire hall in 2017  
146.805-, tone 107.2  
Mike, AK2JAI, ka2jai@arrlnet

**Saturday, February 6 Richmond, VA**  
FROSTFEST 8:30 AM TO 3 PM  
At the Richmond Raceway Complex  
600 East Laburnum Avenue  
<http://frostfest.com/wp/>  
804-620-7287

**Saturday, Feb. 27, Linthicum, MD**  
'7th Techo-Swap-Fest at the  
National Electronics Museum'  
1745 W. Nursery Rd, Linthicum  
9 AM to 2 PM  
[techno.swap.fest@gmail.com](mailto:techno.swap.fest@gmail.com)

## **BARC VE Exams**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
141 Lavern Ave. Landsdowne  
Register at 1:30: exams at 2:00**

## **BARC Meetings**

**First Wednesday at 7 PM  
Wegman's Hunt Valley  
Upstairs Dining Room**

### **2016 Testing Schedule**

(The date and location are subject to change; please preregister.)

#### **Day Date**

Saturday January 9 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday February 6 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday March 5 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday April 2 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday May 7 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday June 4 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday July 9 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday August 6 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday September 10 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday October 1 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday November 5 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227  
Saturday December 3 @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 141 Lavern Ave, Lansdowne, MD 21227

Registration starts at 1:30 PM.

Exams begin at 2 PM.

No one admitted after the exams begin.

Preregister by email: [info@veteam.org](mailto:info@veteam.org)

Please preregister so we can contact you in the event that the exam location site changes.

## **Other Clubs Meetings**

### **LARC VE EXAMS**

364 Main St. Laurel,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. at 9 AM;  
John, WB3GXW,  
301-572-5124

**MD Mobileers VE Exams at**  
National Electronics Museum,  
Linthicum  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6 PM  
Mike, KA2JAI, 443-310-4902  
[KA2JAI@arri.net](mailto:KA2JAI@arri.net)

### **CARA**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 PM  
Columbia Gateway Center  
Room 401; Columbia, MD

### **AARC**

Thursday, April 2, 7:30 PM  
Davidsonville Family Rec.  
Center, 3789 Queen Anne  
Bridge Rd. Davidsonville

### **CCARC**

Monday, 1/11 7:30 PM  
50 Kate Wagner rd.  
Freed, K3TAZ on amateur TV



## Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Mail your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915 or

email to [w3gkx@verizon.net](mailto:w3gkx@verizon.net)

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144 \$125.  
HRO price \$199. N3BHE  
410-299-5931

SPECIAL: ICOM BC110 battery  
charger, 12vDC, 200 ma for ICOM  
T8A or equivalent, cost \$46,  
Make me a reasonable offer.  
Mayer, [w3gkx@verizon.net](mailto:w3gkx@verizon.net)

JADE COMPUTERS  
1009 Ingleside Ave. Balto 21228.  
443-667-4187,

[joe@jadecomputers.us](mailto:joe@jadecomputers.us)

web page design, hosting ,  
order PC ONLINE.

<http://www.jadecomputers.us>

Antique radio repair, restoration  
Eric WA3TAD, audio visual service,  
Retro radio, 3401 Chestnut Ave.  
Balto. 21211, 410-467-3620  
[wa3tad@comcast.net](mailto:wa3tad@comcast.net)

WANTED AC Gilbert erector sets:  
Old, new, large, small, need not be  
Complete. CASH PAID!  
Lewis, 410-296-4874.

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452,  
WB2LOO, [gkm313@verizon.net](mailto:gkm313@verizon.net)

WANTED: YOUR AD!

Your ad would have appeared here  
if you sent it to us. Send your ad to  
[w3gkx@verizon.net](mailto:w3gkx@verizon.net)

VTs Video Taping Service  
video, DVD duplications,  
Video tape transferred to DVD,  
Standards, conversions,,,  
1-877-891-1002. BRATS  
member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS  
<http://www.videotaping-service.com>

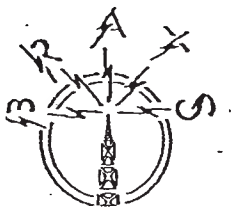
## HAMS USING HOSPITAL ANTENNA

In Wisconsin, a bit of hospital equipment has just become ham equipment too. Recognizing the important role amateur radio signals can play in local disasters, Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital has given space on its tower to a local club repeater.

The Vilas County Amateur Radio Club, KD9DXK, has activated its repeater, making it ready for service in emergencies or to assist with community events.

Mark Dascalos, a spokesman for the hospital, told local National Public Radio member station WXPB recently that bringing the ham radio club onto the tower was a decision that made good sense. Dascalos said: QUOTE "...here in the Northwoods we have difficulty with cell signals and probably equal-wise with radio signals....It was an opportunity to use our tall antenna at the hospital to install a repeater."ENDQUOTE

Club members will make use of the expanded signal to provide communication support for community events as well as community disasters. The tower space is being provided free to the club. (WXPB.ORG via ARNewsline)



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January, 2016

## Team Buffs to Hit right wavelength

RADIO hams will be manning a unique station in East Lancashire to offer train buffs all over the world the chance to share in the glory of the newly-renovated Flying Scotsman's return to the tracks.

RADIO hams will be manning a unique station in East Lancashire to offer train buffs all over the world the chance to share in the glory of the newly-renovated Flying Scotsman's return to the tracks.

In just under a fortnight the famed engine will be making the first of a series of runs along the East Lancashire Railway corridor from Bury Bolton Street to Rawtenstall, through Summerseat, Irwell Vale and Ramsbottom.

And to commemorate the landmark, members of Bury Amateur Radio Society will be setting up shop at Rawtenstall station - and hopefully taking in messages from across the globe.

**Radio enthusiasts will be invited to hook up with the call handle 'GB0ELR' on the weekends of January 9 and 10, and again on January 16 and 17 as part of the heritage line's 'Scotsman in Steam' extravaganza.**

Dave Robinson, society spokesman, said: "The radio station will be used to pass greetings messages on the occasion of the loco's running, to other radio amateurs, potentially worldwide, subject to atmospheric conditions, using the phonetics 'East Lancashire Railway' for 'ELR'.

"It will be freely accessible to visitors to try their hand should they wish, and will be operated jointly by members of the Bury Radio Society and licensed amateurs amongst the ELR working members."

An official run is planned for February from London's King's Cross station to York. The Doncaster-built loco was the first to top 100mph, between the capital and Leeds, in November 1934.

The loco, now 92-years-old, will then become a standing working exhibit at the York-based railway museum. (eham.net)

Renew: Regular \$15; retired/student/disabled \$10; Family \$20

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282-5915